

THE PACIFIC NEWS.

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THE EXCURSION.

Those who availed themselves of the opportunity to step on board the New World yesterday morning for an excursion to Vallejo and Benicia, we are quite certain did not return at all disappointed with their treatment or enjoyment. The boat is really every thing that one can desire. Newly fitted up, her cabins and saloons have every arrangement necessary for comfort and her decks were altogether so neat and clean that a person might very well have mistaken his locality, and imagined himself out of California. Capt. Wakeman appears to be just the man to command so handsome a craft; and one hardly knows with which every thing goes on, or the quiet unobtrusive manner of the officers under whose direction matters glide along so smoothly.

In order to give his passengers a view of the war dogs at Saucello, Capt. Wakeman ran up to this point, and passed through the shipping slowly, and then proceeded on to Vallejo, the city in *futuro*. As all who were on board probably found out, the site of this future town is at the mouth of Napa river. Running within a few rods of the shore, the boats were lowered, and all who wished were landed, to stroll on the grounds and select their building lots. Quite a number of the ladies on board availed themselves of the opportunity. Landing, they found carriages and horses in waiting for a dash beyond "Capitol Hill," and away went the ladies and their beaux, some in carriages and some on horseback.

The country back from the site of the town is well worth seeing; and to a dweller in this city of winds and dust, the herds of cattle scattered over the hills and through the valleys, glimpses of the bay from this and that hill-top, and a clear mountain stream dashing along over a pebbly bottom, in haste to be mingling with the waters of the bay, were sights as refreshing as novel. About four miles from Capitol Hill the party alighted at the "Soda Spring." Whether this name is appropriate is somewhat uncertain—more probably judging from its taste, the water is chalybeate; but it gushes up with a force and sparkle that throws the New World's champagne into the shade; and that is first rate, as more than one Alderman can testify.

At the Spring Capt. Frisbe, in behalf of Gen. Vallejo, did the honors, wines and refreshments of the daintiest kind—a wagon load—being spread out in profusion. These being discussed, the ladies started in search of specimens—the gentlemen were contented to examine champagne corks.

An absence of a couple of hours, and they were back again on the steamer bound for Benicia. As some of the party had been to the city that day, according to a correspondent of the New York Tribune, become the "successful" of San Francisco, terminated in no startling discovery. San Francisco need feel no alarm yet. What the future may develop, the future alone can reveal. The hills in the distance exhibit evidences of a grassy growth. Probably the best thing the owners of this hauler could do at present, would be to take advantage of the grass and will oats, and supply our market with a choice article of beef and mutton. This, however, is merely a suggestion.

Hurrying on board at the ringing of the bell, we started for home, and reached the Senator's wharf in less than two hours from Benicia. Just before entering the harbor, the Mayor was called to the chair, for the purpose of an expression of thanks to the Captain for the pleasure he had been the instrument of bestowing upon the hundreds on board; but reaching the wharf while a gentleman was in the midst of an eloquent speech, the crowd adjourned with three cheers for Capt. Wakeman. When the New World makes another excursion, she may count on just as many as she had yesterday.

LONG MONTH.—A laborer in the employ of the city of St. Louis, presented a bill to the corporation a few days since, for thirty-nine and three quarter days' work, performed during the month of May.

This charge would look like an attempt to rob the city of its funds, but that is not necessarily a just conclusion. Ten hours is a day's work, and over-work is paid for by the hour. Here, in San Francisco, it is no uncommon thing for printers, and others, to work twelve and fifteen hours a day—counting a day and a quarter or a half, as the case may be.

RICH MELONS.—We are indebted to R. L. Killum, Esq., for a couple of rich melons, raised in Napa Valley, about 50 miles from the new town of Vallejo.

This Napa Valley, it will be recollected, is about 60 miles in length. Napa City lies on the west bank of Napa river, about 25 miles from Vallejo, at the head of navigation. Launches of 100 tons, drawing seven feet of water, have taken in loading at Napa City.

VAMPIRES.—The names of a couple of prisoners were on Saturday called in the District Court, but it was found that the owners, not having entire confidence that they would receive justice, had left for parts unknown, having, by some mysterious legend escaped from the prison below. We understand that they walked deliberately out of the rear entrance, and made their escape.

To-NIGHT.—Dr. Collyer gives the proceeds of this evening's entertainment by his "Models," to the fund for the relief of the suffering immigrants. Those who wish to contribute to the relief of the famishing, and at the same time witness a chaste and attractive exhibition, will not fail to embrace the opportunity afforded by the Doctor's liberal offer.

SMITHS.—There are 1,108 families of the name of Smith in the city of New York. Of these, 1,017 rejoice in the name of John Smith.

THE DEAD OF EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY.

The present year has been noted for its chronicles of the death of prominent men of the nation, and of those who had occupied distinguished positions in their particular spheres. Among others of less prominence, are recorded the following:

Hon. John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, died at Washington City, on the 1st day of April, aged 68 years. He was once Vice President of the United States, was Secretary of War, and for many years a member of the United States Senate, of which body he was a member at the time of his death.

Rev. John Newland Maffei, a distinguished preacher of the Methodist church, died at Mobile, on the 25th of May.

Hon. Franklin H. Emore, the successor of Mr. Calhoun in the Senate, died at Washington City, on the 29th day of May, aged 60 years. He died within four weeks after his installation into office.

Mathew L. Davis, one of the prominent politicians of New York, in the days of Aaron Burr, died on the 27th day of June.

Jacob Hays, for fifty years High Constable of New York, died on the 27th day of June.

Hon. Sargeant S. Prentiss, of Louisiana, died at Natchez, Miss., on the 1st day of July, instant. As an orator, he was unrivaled throughout the whole South, and few men, anywhere, possessed his power in popular appeals upon any subject. He was once a member of Congress, from Mississippi.

Gen. Zachary Taylor, President of the United States, died at Washington City, on the 9th day of July, ultimo, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

Adam Ramage died in Philadelphia, on the 9th day of July, instant, in the eightieth year of his age. As the inventor of the "Ramage Press," Mr. Ramage is known all over the United States. The business of press making he had continued up to the time of his death, and has supplied most of the presses of that character that have been used in the United States for a number of years.

INTELLIGENCE FROM THE Isthmus.—Hon. A. B. Corwin, the U. S. Consul at Panama, had returned from his visit to the States.

Alexander Comfort, of Ulysses, Tompkins County, N. Y., died at Panama on the 1st inst.

Thirteen priests of the order of Jesuits, had arrived at Panama, on their way to Peru, to take charge of the seminaries and colleges of learning.

Tickets still continued below par at Panama.

Nothing has been ascertained of the robbers of the specie train across the Isthmus.

The Georgia and Philadelphia, which arrived at Chagres just previous to the sailing of the California, brought near 600 passengers.

An election for Vice President of New Grenada, took place on the 1st. Eight out of the ten votes cast in the canton of Panama, were for Gov. Obaldia, the other two being blank.

The difficulty which caused the arrest of the gentleman who signs the following card, for assault, we know nothing of, but we are quite sure Mr. Atkinson will be enabled to vindicate his rights and character. His name is well known to the reading public, and he has always borne the character of a worthy and peaceable citizen. Where he is known best, he will have no occasion to vindicate the truthfulness of his statements:

EDITOR OF PACIFIC NEWS.—DEAR SIR:—Your Police Report this morning, stating that I was put under bonds in a case threatening life, was founded on a case of absolute perjury, an unqualified lie, which will probably be investigated in the proper quarter on Monday next.

Very Respectfully,
San Francisco, Aug. 24th, 1850. ATKINSON.

FOR OREGON.—The California sailed last evening for Oregon, carrying a considerable number of passengers. This is the first steamer of the regular mail line which has run through to Oregon, as required by the mail contract. Hereafter, each steamer, after discharging its passengers and cargo here, will proceed on with the mail. This will afford regular and stated communication between ourselves and our neighbors farther north—a communication that is particularly desirable in a business point. Many who have come to California in search of treasure, have made their way to Oregon for the purpose of locating permanently. Business between the two points is rapidly increasing, and nothing has been wanting to form an intimate connection but facilities for the transit back and forth. That want is now supplied by the regular line of Pacific Mail Steamers.

THE NEW YORK EXPRESS, in speaking of the fact that the citizens of California were engaged in no movements "looking to the setting up of a Government independent of the Union," adds: "California is not going to set up a business for herself yet. She says she can afford to wait a little longer, though it won't do to impose too much on good nature."

Our Atlantic friends should bear in mind that there is a point at which endurance ceases to be a virtue, and that although we can "afford to wait a little longer," they must not reckon too confidently on our good nature beyond the point of endurance.

ADMISSION TO THE BAR.—Mr. Cooper Turner, who held the appointment of Solicitor for the Queen for the last ten years, in the Australian Colonies, was, on the motion of Judge Burnett, called to the Bar of this State on the 24th inst.

THE ATTORNEY GENERALSHIP.

We some days since announced that Hon. E. J. C. Kewen had resigned the office of Attorney General of the State, and that a distinguished legal gentleman of this city had been appointed to fill the vacancy. Such resignation was made, but previous to its acceptance by the Governor, Mr. K. addressed the Executive a second note, withdrawing his resignation, and announcing his intention of retaining the position until a successor shall be elected in October next. As there was no vacancy until the resignation was accepted, and as no official recognition of it had been taken, the Governor, as will be seen by his letter below, has acquiesced in its withdrawal, and

